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SOURCE Newspapers as indicated

REPORTS DOMESTIC TRADE ACTIVITY,
TIENTSIN FOREIGN TRADE DATA

NORTHEAST TRADES WITH CHINA PROPER -- Mukden Tung-pei Jih-pao, 27 May 50

Peiping, 25 May (Hsin-hua) -- The Peiping Jen-min Jih-pao of 25 May reports that the Finance and Economics Committee of the Government Administration Council has decided to effect an exchange of wheat and cloth from China proper for bean cake, kao-liang, beans, and millet from the Northeast. There is a surplus of the latter in the Northeast and the prospects are for a surplus of wheat, in North China especially, and farmers are asking the government to buy their crops.

The Northeast products will be distributed by the Ministry of Trade in Hopeh, Pingyuan, Shantung, Honan, and north Anhwei. The exchange rate will be one catty of wheat for a maximum of 21 liang [one liang equals 1.2 ounces] of corn, 22 liang of kaoliang, 26 liang of millet, and 20 liang of beans. The scale is based on a formula that considers the moisture content and other content factors of the various grains of medium grade and above. The total of Northeast grains involved will be 387 million catties, including 37 million catties of bean cake.

This exchange of products is expected to be mutually advantageous in caring for local surpluses and providing an outlet for light industry products of China proper.

SOUTHWEST TRADE INCREASES -- Hong Kong Wen-hui Pao, 13 Jul 50

Chungking, 12 July (Hsin-hua) -- Rural-urban commodity exchange in the Southwest district is growing daily. In Chungking, 50 percent more cotton was exchanged during June than in May, and the June market in bolt cloth exceeded the May figure by 150 percent. Tung oil shipped out through Chungking amounted to 3,315 tons during May, which was double the April amount. Over 177,000 kilograms of hog bristles were shipped through Chungking -- 90 percent of the April totals. Shipments of pharmaceuticals totaled 180,000 kilograms, or better than 230 percent of the April figure.

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In Ch'eng-tu, only 300 or 400 Chinese ounces of local silk were exchanged each day during May; but the daily average in June was 4,000 Chinese ounces. Large amounts of Ch'uan-hsi paper and pharmaceuticals, and Nei-chiang sugar, are marketed through Ch'eng-tu to Shensi and Kansu in return for raw cotton, petroleum, and other essential commodities.

Private commercial houses thrive in Kuei-yang, along with the National Trade Corporation which buys for shipment to other areas. In May, 16 private trading firms in the area shipped out 2,000 piculs of tung oil and brought in 180 bales of cotton yarn. Direct navigation has been opened again on the Yangtze River between Shanghai and Chungking since June, so that many merchants traveling from Shanghai, Tientsin, and Hankow are now coming to Szechwan to purchase local products and thus are stimulating commodity exchange. According to data of the General Merchandise Corporation in the Southwest district, the total value of goods marketed in April was 2,600,000,000 yuan; May, 3,100,000,000 yuan; first 20 days in July, over 3,100,000,00 yuan.

Along with this increased activity, the production of native commodities in the Southwest, which had fallen into such severe straits before the liberation, has begun to improve. In May there were only 300 hog bristle outlets in Chungking, but the number rose to 500 during the first 10 days of June. Hog bristle firms grew from eight to 51 in Lu Hsien. All of the 2,200 unemployed in the southern Szechwan hog bristle industry have found work.

The Ch'uan-nan (Southern Szechwan) Local Products Corporation has purchased over 29,000 piculs of table sugar from Nei-chiang. The amount of table sugar which had been shipped out of the Nei-chiang area by the end of May is already equal to the total shipment for the whole of 1949.

SHIP FOOD FROM SZECHWAN TO KIANGSU -- Shanghai Hsin-wen Jih-pao, 24 May 50

Soochow -- The East China Provisions Transport Command Headquarters has decided to ship some 45,000 tons of food from Szechwan to various parts of Southern Kiangsu, in accordance with the resolution on centralized management and distribution of foodstuffs. The Command Headquarters has made agreements with the National Steamship Corporation to set up a transport system.

To facilitate this shipment, Deputy Special Administrator Sun of the Chen-chiang Special Administrative District, on 8 May, called a session of municipal agencies and others involved in the project, to set up the East China Provisions Transport Headquarters Transshipment Station and to clarify the allocation of responsibilities. The station is charged with planning reception and transshipment. The steamship corporation is responsible for reloading the boats. The labor union will see that dockworkers are organized for the project. It will be the duty of the Public Security Bureau to safeguard the grain and protect it while it is being unloaded. It is reported that boats carrying provisions have been arriving regularly at Chen-chiang since 9 May.

TIENTSIN TRADE SHOWS BIG INCREASE -- Tientsin Jih-pao, 25 May 50

Foreign Trade Control Bureau and Customs data for the port of Tientsin reveal that during the first 5 months of 1950 the value in US currency of import-export goods, for which permits were issued, exceeded that for March through December 1949.

Customs data show that imports exceeded exports by only .66 percent for the first 4 months of 1950. Chief exports during the first 4 months were tung oil, hog bristles, wool, and peanuts, in that order. For the period, 31.54 percent of

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the imports were machines, parts, and materials for machinery manufacture, followed by chemical materials and paint materials. Third place went to textile fibers and rubber

The recently signed Sino-Soviet treaty has brought about a considerable rise in foreign trade.

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